

## **ACCESS ASSEMBLY**

### **Abstract**

An access assembly for a container is disclosed. In the preferred embodiment, the access assembly includes an access member pivotally attached to an opening in a trash receptacle wherein the access member pivots to a first open position to allow waste material to be passed into the interior of the trash receptacle. The access member has a first side, including means whereby a user may manually engage the access member. In the preferred embodiment, the user engagement means is a stainless steel handle attached by any appropriate means to the first access member side. The access member has a second side, including means for counterbalancing the combined weight of the handle and the access member. In the preferred embodiment, the counterbalancing means is a counterweight of any appropriate material. The counterweight is so sized and positioned that the access member, having been engaged by a user and disposed to an open position, will automatically return to the closed position and remain there. The configuration of the access assembly allows the user to pass waste material into the trash receptacle, while at the same time avoiding direct contact with any trash or garbage already residing in it. The configuration of the access assembly prevents the access member from remaining partially open, thus preventing unsightly garbage and repugnant odors from protruding outside of or escaping from the walls of the trash receptacle.